

added. As a comparison of the three exhibits will reveal, no substantive changes have been made, so that no question of introduction of new matter arises.

Basically, the changes made are as follows:

In the specification:

Pages 1 to 14 of Exhibit C have been substituted for pages 1 to 13 of Exhibit A.

Pages 14 and 15 of Exhibit A containing the Reference numeral list have been deleted without replacement of their contents.

In the claims:

Pages 16 to 18 of Exhibit A containing claims 1 to 10 some of which contained multiple dependencies have been replaced in Exhibit C by pages 15 to 19 containing amended claims 1 to 10 devoid of such dependencies, as well as newly formulated claims 11 to 20 that are substantively similar to claims 1 to 10, respectively and in that order, which have been written with a view toward avoiding possible rejection on the basis of indefiniteness.

In the Abstract:

Page 19 of Exhibit A containing the Abstract of the Disclosure (originally named Summary) has been replaced in Exhibit C by a new page 20 presenting the renamed Abstract.

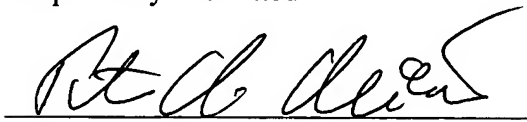
In this context, it is to be mentioned that the aforementioned "Summary" appearing in Exhibit A was prepared at the same time as, and thus contains the same terminology and turns of the phrase as, the rest of the translation, and hence may vary in the exact language used (albeit not in substance or spirit) from the English-language Abstract presented to the EPO/PCT authorities and appearing in the printed copy of the PCT application.

As mentioned before, all of these changes have been highlighted in Exhibit B to facilitate the comparison of the original translation with the new application text.

It is respectfully submitted that, since the changes to the claims (removal of the multiple dependencies) are being made simultaneously with the filing of this U.S. patent application (i.e. the entry into the U.S. national phase), no multiple-dependency fee is due or payable.

An early and favorable consideration of this application on its merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter R. Ruzek", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter R. Ruzek

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 27,509